

March 2024



Newsletter Survey

It's important to us that we get our communications to you right. Please take a minute to answer this five-question survey. Responses are confidential and will help us determine how best to communicate news and information about the university with you.

FROM: OU Marketing and Communications

OU Engineering Achieves Milestone: Research Expenditures Soar

OU Engineering Dean John Klier recently reported a 50% increase in research expenditures and grants versus the prior year, setting a new record for the Gallogly College of Engineering. The increase shows the strength of OU researchers marked by consistent growth in awards and expenditures. For further insights into research endeavors at OU, read the [2023 University of Oklahoma Annual Research Report](#).

Binbin Weng Receives CAREER Award to Advance Gas Sensing Technologies

Binbin Weng, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award of \$497,370 for his project "Enabling New States of Light in Mid-Wave Infrared Photonics for Gas Sensing Applications." He aims to address the need for improved gas sensing networks, particularly in monitoring methane emissions from oil and gas production. [Learn about these applications.](#)



Stay informed as OU Engineering progresses in its endeavors, with more CAREER award recipients to be recognized in the April issue of OU Engineer.

National Academy of Inventors Names Wei R. Chen Senior Member

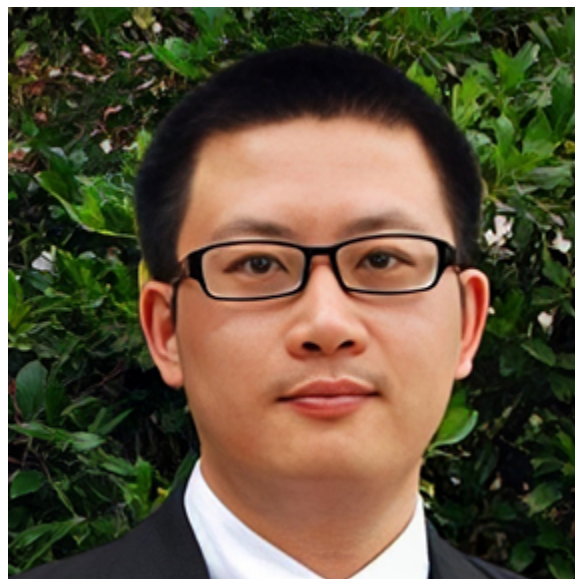
Wei R. Chen, Stephenson School of Biomedical Engineering, has been honored with the title of Senior Member by the National Academy of Inventors. Chen's induction into NAI recognizes his contributions to biomedical engineering and to his inventions that are helping revolutionize cancer treatment. The research by his team has resulted in the development of technologies that hold promise in the field of oncology. [Discover more about the drug patent.](#)



Yingtao Liu Takes on Key Role in Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute

Yingtao Liu, School of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, has been named associate research director of sustainment and modernization for the Oklahoma Aerospace and Defense Innovation Institute. He is tasked with

leading various research initiatives in advanced manufacturing, supply chain and logistics for both the Department of Defense and the aerospace sector. [Learn more.](#)



INFORMS Selects Kash Barker as Inaugural Senior Member

Kash Barker, School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, recently was named one of the inaugural Senior Members of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. INFORMS, with nearly 12,000 global members, is an association spanning operations research, analytics and artificial intelligence. Barker advises the OU student chapter of [INFORMS](#).



Student News

Catalysis Community Recognizes Laura Gomez

Laura Alejandra Gomez, a postdoctoral associate in the Crossley Catalysis and Nanomaterials Group, has achieved recognition within the field of catalysis. She is one of only two early career researchers under the age of 35 chosen by the [International Association of Catalysis Societies](#) to receive support for her attendance at an ICC

meeting — a biennial event often likened to the Olympics for those in the catalysis community.



Matthew Webb Receives NAMS Student Fellowship

Matthew Webb recently received the 2024 [North American Membrane Society](#) Student Fellowship Award that recognizes outstanding achievements from graduate students. One of three recipients nationwide, Webb, a Ph.D. student advised by Michele Galizia from the School of Sustainable Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering, was awarded.



OU Engineering Tackles National Shortage with Engineering Pathways Program

OU Engineering is addressing a national workforce shortage in engineering by implementing Engineering Pathways, a multi-layered support system. Supported by both the Oklahoma State Legislature and a \$21.6 million investment from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the program focuses on fostering

success for engineering students. The program is entering its third year with Susan Walden (*photo, shown on left*), an American Society for Engineering Education Fellow, serving as its executive director. [Learn more.](#)



History Pages

1947

According to the minutes of the Engineering faculty meeting on December 9, 1947, the faculty approved a curriculum in Industrial Management Engineering to be offered by the Department of Industrial Education. The curriculum consisted of a group of basic engineering courses selected from offerings in Mechanics and Mechanical Engineering along with courses in shop and 38 semester hours of courses taken in Business Management. The finalized approved curriculum appeared in the 1949 College of Engineering Bulletin. This was the start of [Industrial Engineering](#) at the University of Oklahoma.

Source: OU College of Engineering: A 70-Year History. By Tom J. Love Jr., George Cross Professor Emeritus, OU School of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering.

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